

REMARKS

With entry of the present amendment, Claims 49-74 are pending, of which Claims 49, 59 and 71 are independent. Claims 49-59 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmelstein et al (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0011270), DeLorme (U.S. Patent No. 6,321,148), and Labio et al (U.S. Patent No. 7,089,301). For the reasons set forth below, all claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

For explanation, but without limitation to the claims, certain embodiments will be described. The present system generally relates to an offline geographically bounded subset of the Internet, which is stored and indexed on a tablet device. By storing geographically bounded websites on a tablet device and making the indexed website content available offline, a user has the ability to use the tablet device to access this geographically based subset of the Internet, without connecting to the Internet. In other words, the user can use the tablet device to access a website that has been indexed on the system without connecting to the Internet. The system also uses distributed processing by peer computers to optimize creation of this geographically bounded index.

Himmelstein, however, discusses an approach to geocoding web pages. Himmelstein discusses using an indexing/crawling technique, which extracts geocode information that is embedded within the page to map the page to a particular geographical region.

DeLorme relates to a handheld PDA mapping system that connects to the Internet to access updates to its software, its maps and to points of interest.

Labio discusses a distributed peer-to-peer networking technique.

It is respectfully submitted that the references, taken alone or in combination, do not discuss the inventive concept of downloading a geographically based subset of the Internet onto

a tablet so that this subset of the Internet is accessible for offline retrieval, without accessing the Internet.

The Examiner acknowledges that Himmelstein does not show the inventive feature of having a geographically bounded searchable index that is accessible offline without connecting to the Internet, and the Examiner cites DeLorme to show this feature. DeLorme, however, relates to a handheld GPS mapping device that is capable of connecting to the Internet to download map and point of interest updates. DeLorme does not suggest the inventive concept of storing a geographically bounded searchable index of webpages (a subset of the Internet) locally on a tablet, so that it is retrievable offline without connecting to the Internet.

Specifically, DeLorme does not discuss accessing the Internet to create and locally store a geographically based subset of the Internet. Rather, DeLorme discusses accessing the Internet to perform software updates to its mapping system and to its points of Internet data. Updating mapping information from the Internet as taught by DeLorme is not the same as indexing a subset of the Internet and storing that indexed subset on the tablet device for offline retrieval.

Moreover, DeLorme's portable GPS mapping device does not even support website content. In particular, DeLorme neither discusses that its GPS mapping handheld device supports web-enabled content, nor does DeLorme's GPS mapping handheld device provide web-browsing software. Thus, DeLorme does not contemplate the inventive concept of creating a geographically based subset of the Internet that is accessible for offline retrieval. As such, DeLorme does not discuss the limitations of amended Claim 49, "*storing the geographically bounded searchable webpage index locally on a local hard drive of a tablet device, where the geographically bounded searchable webpage index is accessible offline from the local hard drive of the tablet device without accessing the Internet.*"

Further, a web index as taught by Himmelstein is not supported by the GPS mapping handheld device taught by DeLorme and, therefore, Himmelstein's web-index would not be

compatible DeLorme's GPS mapping handheld device. Thus, the combination of Himmelstein's web-index and DeLorme's GPS mapping handheld device would be inoperative.

The Examiner states that DeLorme teaches downloading from the Internet, mapping information for portable use including routes and POIs. Downloading mapping information from the Internet, however, is not the same as indexing webpages associated with a geographic region so that these geographically bounded webpages are accessible for offline retrieval. In fact, Himmelstein, DeLorme, or Labio, taken alone or in combination, do not suggest indexing geographically bounded portions of the Internet for offline retrieval.

As such, DeLorme's system is directed to GPS mapping and navigation, and therefore it is non-analogous art as it does not relate or support web-indexing systems. DeLorme's GPS system does not relate to the invention that creates a miniature version of the Internet that is geographically bounded and accessible offline. Himmelstein, DeLorme, or Labio, taken alone or in combination, do not contemplate the inventive concept of creating a geographically bounded offline subset of the Internet, nor suggest a need to do so.

Furthermore, Himmelstein, DeLorme, or Labio do not discuss the inventive feature of *enabling, from the tablet device, access to one or more of the geographically bounded webpages without connecting to the Internet*, as set forth in amended Claim 49.

Thus, Himmelstein, DeLorme, or Labio, taken alone or in combination, do not discuss the inventive tablet that creates, stores, and enables access to a geographically bounded searchable index of webpages from the Internet that are accessible offline, without connecting to the Internet. As such, Himmelstein, DeLorme, or Labio, taken alone or in combination, do not discuss the limitations or the advantages of the claimed invention of Claim 49, including:

- creating and maintaining a list of attribute bounded electronic addresses representing a plurality of indexable electronic documents, on a computer network, that are associated with a geographically bounded region, where the computer network is the Internet;

- identifying a plurality of peer computers associated with the geographically bounded region, the computers to perform distributed processing tasks to enable the creation of a geographically bounded searchable index of electronic documents, the electronic documents being webpages on the Internet;
- in response to receiving a geographically bounded request from one of the computers, assigning one or more geographically bounded electronic addresses from the geographically bounded list;
- sending the assigned geographically bounded electronic address to the requesting computer, where the requesting computer processes the assigned geographically bounded electronic address to index one or more geographically bounded webpages that are obtained through the assigned geographically bounded electronic address;
- creating a geographically bounded searchable index of the webpages that are obtained through the assigned geographically bounded electronic address by spidering the webpages;
- storing the geographically bounded searchable webpage index locally on a local hard drive of a tablet device, where the geographically bounded searchable webpage index is accessible offline from the local hard drive of the tablet device without accessing the Internet; and
- enabling, from the tablet device, access to one or more of the geographically bounded webpages without connecting to the Internet, as set forth in Claim 49.

As such, it is respectfully requested that the § 103(a) rejection of Claim 49 based on Himmelstein, DeLoreme and Labio be reconsidered and withdrawn. For reasons similar to those set forth above regarding Claim 49, it is respectfully requested that the § 103(a) rejection of Claims 50-59 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

New Claims

New Claim 60 depends from base Claim 49 and specifies that the geographical searchable index of websites creates a virtual subset of the Internet. Support for this claim can

be found throughout the application, for example, at least at paragraphs 209, 212, 249 in the published version application. For instance, at paragraph 209, the published version of the application states, “This patent involves . . . building a virtual subset of the Internet.” At paragraph 212, the application describes that the tablet devices would contain subsets of the web for travelers. Further, as described at paragraph 249, “An embodiment of the present invention comprises a method of using geographic data and other business attributes to isolate a select number of domains which are then spidered in a variety of options user a plurality of users and within certain parameters to create an indexed subset of data from the Internet providing significant concurrency of data and which can then be accessed via a graphical or non graphical interface or stored offline to be accessed later in a tablet or other wireless device without the requirement of access to the Internet.”

New Claims 61-70 depend from base Claim 59, and parallel dependent Claims 50-58, and 60, respectively.

New independent Claim 71 includes limitations similar to those set forth in Claims 49, 58, 59, and 60.

New dependent Claim 72 parallels dependent Claim 51.

New dependent Claim 73 parallels dependent claim 52.

New dependent Claim 74 parallels dependent Claim 53.

For reasons similar to those set forth above regarding Claim 49, it is respectfully submitted that the new claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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